

SENATE RESOLUTION 217
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Robert L. Saunders.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Robert L. Saunders; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Saunders was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, an educational leader and reformer, Dr. Saunders devoted his life to educating young people at the high school and collegiate levels; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and proficient scholar, Dr. Saunders earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Science Education from Auburn University in 1947 and also a Master of Science degree in Education from Auburn University in 1950; and

WHEREAS, determined to continue his education, Robert L. Saunders earned a Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Administration from Auburn University in 1957; and

WHEREAS, after earning his doctorate, Robert L. Saunders served as the Associate Dean of Education at Auburn University and as an educator and principal at Tallassee High School in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Dr. Saunders was named Dean of the College of Education at Memphis State University, in which position he served with acumen and alacrity until his retirement in 1988; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding educator, Dr. Saunders' desire to teach extended well beyond the classroom as he participated in numerous professional organizations, including serving as President of the Alabama Education Association and as a member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; and

WHEREAS, the author of three books, Dr. Saunders educated many people on educational leadership through his literary contributions; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the community, Dr. Saunders served as a volunteer of the Huntsville-Madison County Botanical Garden Society; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic accomplishments aside, Robert L. Saunders bravely served his country in the United States Marine Corps during the Second World War and the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robert L. Saunders leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Dr. Robert L. Saunders, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Robert L. Saunders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.